

COVID-19 QUICK TIPS | SCHOOLS



QUICK TIP
1

Take steps to protect staff and students.

- Strongly encourage mask use** for students and visitors in our schools and facilities. Masks are required for all staff inside GCPS buildings when health officials report the level of community transmission is HIGH, and strongly encouraged at other times.
- Promote physical distancing when feasible.**
- Clean and disinfect regularly** with EPA-approved disinfectants.
- Encourage students and staff to **wash hands often.**
- Encourage students and staff to stay home when they are sick.**

QUICK TIP
2

Watch for symptoms of illness.

Individuals who have COVID-19 may experience one or more of the following:

- Fever or chills
- New cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Nausea/vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Muscle or body aches
- Fatigue
- Headache
- New nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose

QUICK TIP
3

Take action if someone is ill or illness is suspected.

1. **Separate the individual with symptoms from others until they can go home** (use an empty classroom, office, school clinic, etc.). Ensure the ill person is masked appropriately and that any staff with them when they are separated remain masked and socially distanced. **COVID-19 positive individuals should stay home until isolation is complete.**
2. **Identify and notify any close contacts.**

Required **isolation** period for COVID-19 positive individuals

Who is considered a **close contact**?

How long is **quarantine** period for close contacts?

Isolation keeps someone who is infected with the virus away from others.

Positive individuals with symptoms should isolate for at least 5 full days and be 24 hours fever-free, without the aid of fever-reducing medications, and all other symptoms should have improved.

Positive individuals without symptoms should isolate for 5 full days from first positive test date.

Close contacts include anyone who spent 15 minutes or more at a distance of 6 feet or less with the positive person during their infectious period.

Quarantine keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others. CDC recommends that close contacts quarantine for 10 days.

If the exposure occurred at school/work and the close contact remains asymptomatic, they may remain at school/work.

If the exposure occurred outside of school/work and the close contact is UNVACCINATED or the individual's vaccination/boosters are NOT UP TO DATE, that person will need to quarantine for 5 full days from the date of exposure. If unable to quarantine from the positive case, the close contact will need to quarantine for 10 full days from when symptoms started for the positive case or for 10 days from the close contact's test date if they have no symptoms.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 <i>exposure date</i>	2 <i>quarantine starts</i>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- Quarantine Period
- End of Quarantine, Return to School or Work
- Mask Use Strongly Encouraged When Around Others

QUICK TIP
4

Report COVID-19 illness.

Each school's Health Response Team will follow the process to report COVID-19 cases. That information will be collected and transmitted to the Gwinnett Newton Rockdale Health Department.

District leaders continue to monitor for new guidance from health partners and the state, using it to inform decision-making about mitigation strategies that might be needed during the 2022-23 school year.